

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 – 16, and 18 – 33 are pending in the application and are allowed over the prior art.

Claims 1, 3 – 16, and 18 – 33 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. patent 6,842,896.

Without prejudice, and to advance prosecution of this application, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer under 37 CFR § 1.321 indicating common ownership of the present application and U.S. patent 6,842,896.

The submission of the terminal disclaimer obviates the double patenting rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of that rejection is respectfully requested.

The foregoing amendment to the specification provides serial numbers, filing dates, and issued patent numbers for the related applications identified in the original cross-reference to related applications in the specification as filed. That information was not available when this application was filed. No new matter is added by that amendment.

No other matters remain.

CONCLUSION

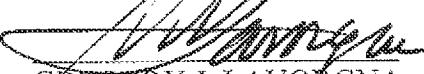
In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for immediate allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection and an early notice of allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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